



# OXFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*“Sailing Towards Success”*

Friday, March 13, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Yesterday, I met with Town officials including the local Board of Health Agent to discuss a comprehensive Town-wide plan for all Town departments including the school department. At the present time, please be aware that the Board of Health Agent has indicated that there are no known positive presumptive cases of COVID-19 in our District. To continue to proactively monitor this evolving condition, the District will be in regular contact with the local Board of Health Agent and keep apprised of any new information or recommendations coming from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding COVID-19. In addition, we will attend weekly meetings with all Town officials to evaluate new data as part of our efforts to mitigate any potential COVID-19 impact to students and staff. Lastly, we will stay apprised of updates issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). In fact, we participated in a conference call with the Commissioner just this morning and were advised that there are currently no statewide mandated school closures - at this time, those are handled at the local level based on need.

As a reminder, the below measures can help protect you and your family members from the spread of the virus:

- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds often. Do not touch your mouth, nose, or eyes with unwashed hands. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Practice good cough etiquette. When coughing, one should turn head and cough or sneeze into a disposable tissue and immediately dispose of the used tissue. Promptly wash your hands after. If tissue is not available use the inside of your elbow.
- Avoid taking young children or immunocompromised people into large crowds unnecessarily.
- Do not share things that go into the mouth such as drinking cups, straws, eating utensils, etc.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, if possible. Stay home if you are ill. Children should not attend school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications and feeling well.

The Oxford Public School District has one simple objective – keeping students and staff safe. To that end, the school department will continue to ramp up its regular cleaning and disinfecting protocols in all schools. We will take additional measures, as warranted, when identified or presumptive cases of COVID-19 are confirmed. These measures may include any or all of the following: additional deep cleaning, requiring self-quarantine, dismissing school(s), and/or closing all schools, to name a few.

As the situation changes with respect to COVID-19, we will be prepared to respond appropriately and consistently with any updated changes issued from the DPH, CDC, and/or DESE.

For more information, visit the links on our website at: [oxps.org](http://oxps.org)

Sincerely,

Susan J. Henrichon, Ed.D.  
Acting Superintendent

4 MAPLE ROAD, OXFORD, MA 01540 · (508) 987-6050 · FAX (508) 987-6054 · TDD LINE (508) 987-6096

*The Oxford Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, homelessness, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, or limited English proficiency.*